

A PROCLAMATION HONORING DEBORAH OBERLIN ON BEING NAMED "TOYS FOR TOTS" NATIONAL COORDINATOR OF THE YEAR

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program collects toys every year for distribution to underprivileged children during the holiday season;

Whereas, since its founding, the Toys for Tots Program has distributed more than 400 million toys to more than 188 million children;

Whereas, the Carroll, Harrison, and Jefferson County Toys for Tots Organization served 2,656 children in 2009 under the leadership of Deborah Oberlin;

Whereas, the Toys for Tots Program considers a number of factors in selecting a National Coordinator of the Year, including the number of children reached relative to the community population and the spirit of teamwork demonstrated by the organization;

Resolved that along with the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend Deborah Oberlin on being selected as the National Coordinator of the Year for the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program for 2009, and for her hard work serving the children of Ohio through this outstanding organization.

GERARD PLACIDE

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Whereas, The Caribbean community is a vital part of our Nation and its members are known worldwide; and

Whereas, Gerard Placide, not only talks the talk, but he walks the walk as it relates to our elected officials and our community working together to strengthen the relationships between the Caribbean community and citizens throughout our country; and

Whereas, Gerard Placide has served our nation honorably in the United States Army for six and a half years, he is a Goodwill Ambassador for not only the citizens in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, Trinidad and Tobago, the Cayman Islands, and all of the Caribbean Nations; and

Whereas, this wise psalmist and man of God has shared his time and talents for the betterment of his community and his nation through his tireless works, inspirational singing and words of encouragement and motivation that have and continues to be a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Caribbean community and Gerard Placide on this day and for outstanding leadership and service to our District:

Now, therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim June 18, 2010 as

Gerard Placide Day, in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 18th day of June, 2010.

IN HONOR OF 16 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE BY THE NOVA-ANNANDALE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2010 AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to thank the NOVA-Annandale Symphony Orchestra for providing our community with outstanding performances for the past 16 years and to recognize its 2010 Award Recipients.

In 1994, Dr. Claiborne Richardson of the Reunion Music Society (RMS) and Dr. Gladys Watkins of the Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA), Annandale Campus, formed a partnership between to create the NOVA-Annandale Symphony Orchestra. The orchestra combines the talents of local professional and amateur musicians and college students to develop their skills by performing the music of different cultures and heritages.

On April 16, 2010, during the NOVA-Annandale Symphony Orchestra's "Colors of Spring" concert the RMS announced award recipients in two special categories: The Richardson-Watkins Founders Awards, which recognize persons or businesses from the community that have made significant contributions to the success of the RMS' programs, and The Orchestra/Players Awards, for which musicians are recognized by their peers for making significant contributions to the success and development of the symphony orchestra over several years.

The 2010 recipients of The Richardson-Watkins Founders Awards are:

Campbell & Ferrara Nurseries in Annandale, Va., and its Garden Manager, Karen Stay, for many years of providing complimentary flower arrangements displayed in the lobby of the NOVA Theater during the orchestra's concerts and for helping to promote concerts at its store. Ms. Stay always makes sure the floral arrangements are delivered on time.

Mr. Steven Metzger, owner of "Expert Software Design," who has hosted the RMS' website for many years, making timely changes, and absorbing all expenses. His diligence in maintaining the website is particularly noteworthy since he commutes between his home in Fairfax, Va., and his full-time job in Frederick, Md. Mr. Metzger has been instrumental in converting the website (www.reunionmusic.org) to a new, exciting design.

Dr. Barbara Saperstone, Provost of NOVA's Annandale Campus, who has supported RMS programs over a decade, including needed resources for the orchestra such as acoustical enhancements in the college theater. Through her leadership the college has provided at no cost to the orchestra or the RMS use of rehearsal rooms and the theater, purchase of music scores and printing of "playbills" for concerts.

The recipients of The Orchestra/Players Awards are:

Mrs. Nancy McKinless, who has served for many years as the orchestra's librarian and plays the violin at concerts. Mrs. McKinless ensures that the musicians have appropriate music scores for rehearsals and concerts. This involves dealing with music libraries for renting or purchasing music.

Mr. Rolland ("Bucky") Roup, who plays the violin. Mr. Roup devotes many hours to carefully coordinate logistical matters with the orchestra's music director and with the NOVA theater technical staff, and he has trained a cadre of other orchestra members to assist in stage management.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the NOVA-Annandale Symphony Orchestra for continuing to offer outstanding concerts in collaboration with the RMS and NOVA, and I also ask that we commend the 2010 recipients of The Richardson-Watkins Founders Awards and of The Orchestra/Players Choice Awards.

CONGRATULATING THE CITY OF ROCK HILL FOR WINNING THE "EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNICATIONS AWARD" FROM THE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate the city of Rock Hill, South Carolina for receiving a Municipal Achievement Award from the Municipal Association of South Carolina for excellence in communications. MASC established these awards in 1987 in an effort to encourage innovations and excellence in local government.

The city of Rock Hill won this year's award for RH19, the city's government access channel, which not too long ago was in a dire state. With no upgrades since the 1980s, malfunctioning cameras, a signal that did not meet broadcast specifications, and inadequate audio capabilities, the result was an unimpressive broadcast that was not taken seriously.

What RH19 did have, however, is a dedicated staff that responded with urgency when the Rock Hill City Council decided in 2008 that one of its strategic goals would be to provide "open and effective communication" to the citizens of that community.

After doing an inventory of the city's existing means of communication, the staff decided that the public access station was the most deficient and in need of modernizing. According to the Municipal Association of South Carolina, RH19 staff took a "modest budget and a rebate from a terminated franchise agreement with the local cable provider" and went to work, fixing existing equipment and buying new software and equipment to replace those items beyond repair. Moreover, they developed a "branded" look for the channel and established standardized production schedules, opting for "short, well-executed messages" to ensure the most current information was aired to the public. RH19 also recruited students from local colleges and universities to work as interns, providing them a significant and lasting experience in media production and journalism.